

COPY

11 December 1957

Honorable Robert Cutler  
Special Assistant to the President  
Executive Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Cutler:

Reference is made to your memorandum of May 29, October 1, and December 4, 1957, concerning the proposal for legislation to permit reciprocal radio agreements. As you will recall, this proposal was the subject of a discussion at the White House on May 29, 1957, at which time I stated the position of the Interdepartmental Intelligence Conference (IIC) concerning it. I pointed out that I was not objecting to the legislation nor was I endorsing it but that I considered it my responsibility to invite attention to its possible effect upon internal security.

My representatives and those of the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) have met on several occasions and discussed this matter in considerable detail. CIA has stressed the vital need of expanding its communication system abroad in order to adequately handle intelligence problems which may arise in emergency situations. The IIC has pointed out the internal security factors which exist and which undoubtedly will continue.

As a result of discussions held with CIA representatives, we have agreed that as a general principle reciprocal radio agreements should not be sought with Soviet bloc countries. In the event future developments indicate a need for agreements in such areas, the internal security factors should be thoroughly reviewed prior to initiating any agreement. It is believed that the foregoing, if implemented in practice, would reduce the security factors which were the subject of our concern and consequently the remainder of the program to establish reciprocal radio agreements would be feasible.

\*underlined portion penciled in.

FBI REVIEW  
COMPLETED

15/  
from Mr. J. E. L. [unclear]  
Chairman